

The Greatest Realistic

Burlesque Farce

OF THE

Latter Part of the Nineteenth Century.

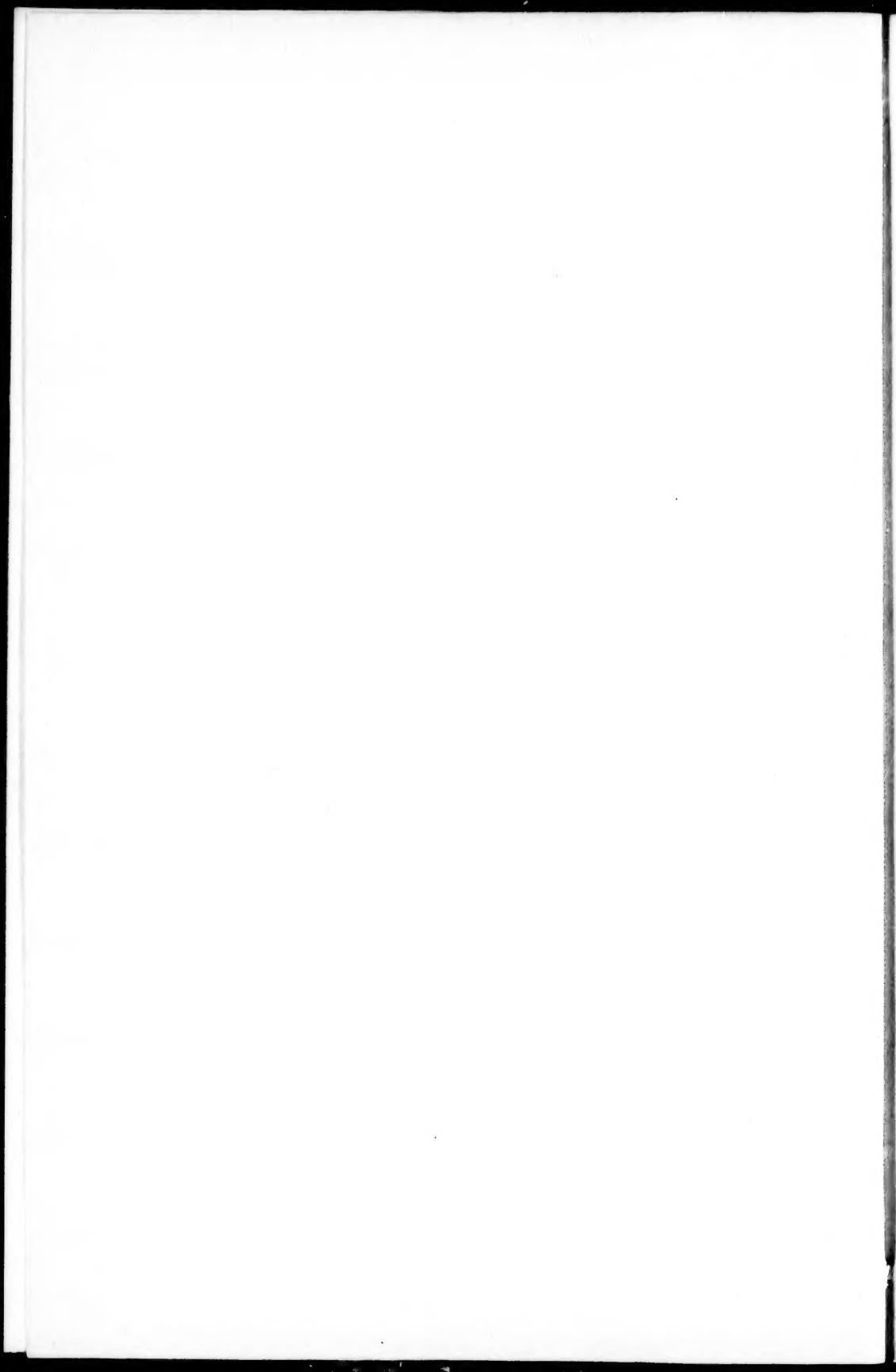
JUSTICE PEG

AND

HIS JUSTICE SHOP

In the City of Win.

IN FOUR ACTS.



DESCRIPTIVE.

Pow, this City of Win is an important city, being the capital of the Province of Toba. It is peopled, mostly, by a peaceful, energetic, law-abiding, cosmopolitan class of citizens.

The laws and customs governing the people are made by legislators selected in the constituencies in Win and throughout Toba. These legislators assemble in their legislative buildings once in each year and enact such laws as the public welfare and the good government of the people require.

An important matter is now before the legislators and the people known as the Temperance Question.

The people are divided into classes of those who want, and require, the use of stimulants, or drinkers, and non-drinkers. To control and create a revenue for government purposes, the Legislators enact certain laws of restriction in the traffic in wines, beer, and alcoholic liquors; and bargain with a certain number of citizens, known as license-holders, to sell under their restrictive laws to those demanding the enumerated goods.

The License-holders are, individually, an open-hearted, hospitable class of men, not any better and not much worse than humanity in general, although made into outcasts by foolish prejudice and intemperate bigotry.

The temperance portion of the people—many of them extremely intemperate in their methods and utterances—can be divided into very distinct classes. 1st, the honest, earnest, useful temperance man, who does not need stimulants; who does not use them on principle: who by his example and practice is the best advocate of true temperance reform, and while exercising an individual right does not attempt to coerce or prevent his fellow man from using his judgment and equal individual right. 2nd, the temperance man who keeps a “growler” and a cellar supply. 3rd, the busy-bodies, mischief-makers, fanatics, bigots who want to drive all who differ with their pet hobby after “Poor Lo.”

In Toba this third class is represented by Mother Mulo, Mrs. Cism, Rev. Ogg, and Litigation Graindealer. Surely they are descendants of some of Cromwell's adherents. These people manage to exert an undue influence owing to their perseverance, backed, as they pretend, by a reserve force.

Legislators should carefully consider the possibility of making laws so restrictive that the people lose respect for them, and in this way defeat the objects intended.

There is no possibility of making laws that will make men consider, believe, or feel that it is a crime to partake of their favorite beverage. Alcoholic beverages have been in use since the dawn of history, and will be used until mankind is regenerated and human tastes and customs are completely changed.

— O —

CHARACTERS.

JUSTICE PEG. A retired soldier, knows little of law, less of justice, nothing of the analysis of evidence, and whose decisions depend largely upon the conditions of his stomach and rheumatism. Prominent features in his decisions are bumptious assumption and relentless prejudice.

CHIEF GIANT. Prominent official in Justice shop.

SCRIBE. Clever with the pen, and equally clever in manipulating lawyer's questions and the witnesses' answers.

PETTIFOGGER. Does the dirty work for boodle.

SPY. Lots of character. The lawyers have been trying to make additions to it by cross-examination.

GIANT RETAINERS. In waiting on Giant Chief.

CITIZENS AND OTHERS.



ACT I.

Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine to those that be of heavy heart. Let him drink and forget his poverty and remember his misery no more. PROVERBS, Chap. 31: 6, 7.

SCENE I.

Justice shop in City of Win.

Enter JUSTICE PEG, SCRIBE, GIANT CHIEF, GIANT RETAINERS in waiting on the Giant Chief, LAWYERS, CITIZENS, and PETTIFOUGGER. All are seated.

JUSTICE PEG takes the chair and in due form opens the Justice shop for business. GIANT hands JUSTICE PEG a document.

Enter motley crowd, ordinary drunks, street girls, and general toughs, escorted by GIANT.

Complaints lodged by the Giants. Machine justice meted out quickly. Of these unfortunates nobody knows, nobody cares.

The Justice battery is now ready for action

JUSTICE PEG. Are the victims in Court?

GIANT CHIEF. They are, your worship.

JUSTICE PEG. Are the spies also present?

GIANT CHIEF. They have departed hence, your worship.

JUSTICE PEG. Why are the spies not within the jurisdiction of this High Court?

GIANT CHIEF. They have likely taken alarm at popular indignation and have fled for safety.

JUSTICE PEG. Does there remain even one spy upon whose evidence this court can convict?

GIANT CHIEF. Yes, your Worship, one spy remains, but his evidence cannot be corroborated.

JUSTICE PEG. Away with such technical folly! This Court requires no such idle and useless form as corroborative evidence to convict these victims. This Court is a law unto itself.

Enter LICENSE HOLDER, charged with selling during prohibited hours. Scribe reads summons and complaint.

JUSTICE PEG. How does this victim plead; guilty or not guilty?

LICENSE HOLDER. Guilty, your worship.

JUSTICE PEG. Fifty dollars and the cost of Court.

FIRST CITIZEN. (To License holder). Why did you plead guilty to the charge?

LICENSE HOLDER. Because I knew the court would convict. The villainous court spy, assuming to be a stranger, cold and weary, secures, as a guest, the hospitalities of the house, and this complaint is the result.

SECOND CITIZEN. Too bad. They are pushing these restrictive laws far beyond the confines of reason and justice. Like a belated traveller on the prairies finding a settler's cabin, is given entertainment, and for gratitude burns the cabin that gave him shelter.

Enter GIANT with another LICENSE HOLDER. SCRIBE reads summons and complaint.

JUSTICE PEG. How does *this* victim plead?

LICENSE HOLDER. Not guilty.

Enter COURT SPY; briefly gives his evidence that he secured intoxicants at the defendant's bar during the prohibited hours. Conviction follows. Fifty dollars and costs.

JUSTICE PEG (soliloquy). Ah! ha! Truly a goodly haul from these wicked ones. A good day's work for the machine whose power shall be felt and feared throughout the City of Win and the great Province of Toba. Oh, how I have longed for to-day's victories! Their money we have; its sound fell upon my ear with a peculiar and indescribable charm, like the gentle murmur of a low fountain stealing forth in the midst of roses, of the soft, sweet accents of an angel whisper in the bright, joyous dream of sleeping innocence. Money! Their money! Our money!

[Curtain.]

ACT II.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herbs for the service of man: That he may bring forth food out of the earth, and *wine* that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.—
PSALMS 104 : 14, 15.

SCENE I.

Justice shop in the City of Win.

Enter JUSTICE PEG, SCRIBE, GIANT CHIEF, GIANT RETAINERS in waiting on Giant Chief, LAWYERS, CITIZENS, PETTIFOGGER.

All are seated.

The shop is opened in due form. JUSTICE PEG in His Worship's

chair, seemingly satisfied that the COURT SPY is ready to aid machine justice. Enter LICENSE HOLDER, charged with selling during prohibited hours under Toba Laws.

SCRIBE reads summons and complaint. Plea of "not guilty" entered by LICENSE HOLDER.

COURT SPY. About thirty minutes after the time for closing bar I, with a friend, secured for myself and friend intoxicating liquors in this victim's house, contrary to the laws in such cases made and provided.

LAWYER. How do you know it was 9 o'clock when you were in the bar? Did you have a watch?

COURT SPY. No, I had no watch, but my friend had one.

LAWYER. Are you willing to swear that your friend had a watch and that you saw it?

COURT SPY. I did not see his watch, but he told me he had one.

LAWYER. When did he tell you he had a watch?

COURT SPY. The night before he left the City of Win for parts unknown.

LAWYER. Then, as a matter of fact, you did not know what the real time was by any time.

COURT SPY. By my boarding house clock.

Here a general wrangle ensues between JUSTICE PEG, LAWYER, PETTIFOgger, and COURT SPY, over meantime, sun time, Win time, and Central time. Time is called on the defendant and JUSTICE PEG exclaims above the din "Fifty dollars and costs."

Exit DEFENDANT, and the shop adjourns.

SCENE II.

All the characters present, and Justice Shop duly opened.
Enter another DEFENDANT, charged with selling etc.,

JUSTICE PEG. And how does this victim plead; guilty or not guilty?

DEFENDANT. I plead not guilty, your worship.

JUSTICE PEG. Let the trial of the victim proceed.

Enter COURT SPY, (now known as CROWN WITNESS upon the authority of PETTIFOgger).

COURT SPY. On the night in question I went to the victim's house and found the doors locked.

JUSTICE PEG. And your evidence?

COURT SPY. When we were at the bar I called for the drinks and took beer, an intoxicating drink, my colleague also took a drink. The victim served us. I paid 25 cents for the drinks, the victim partook with us and took the cash also.

JUSTICE PEG. And what then?

COURT SPY. Have I not sworn quite enough already to convict this victim? Have I not done all I was expected to do?

Enter a number of CITIZENS.

JUSTICE PEG. Sirs, who are you, and why do you intrude upon the sacred precincts of this High Court?

FIRST CITIZEN. We are residents of Win, your worship, claiming to be respectable men. We earn our own livelihood in the City of Win, and respectfully offer our testimony in the case now pending before your worship.

JUSTICE PEG. Let us hear what you have to say.

FIRST CITIZEN. On the night referred to by Court Spy I tried the doors and was unable to get into the house.

SECOND CITIZEN. I tried the doors and found them locked.

THIRD CITIZEN. The doors were locked and I could not enter the house.

FOURTH CITIZEN. At two different times that night I tried the doors and found them locked against me.

FIFTH CITIZEN. I found the door locked —.

JUSTICE PEG. How do you account for Crown Witness securing admission?

FIFTH CITIZEN. May I consult memorandum, your worship? Reads — Falsity, falsification, falsehood, deception, guile, untruth, mendacity, invention, fabrication, perversion distortion, prevarication, mystification, simulation, pretence, duplicity, gammon, buncombe, flim-flam, flim-flam, —.

JUSTICE PEG. Stop, sir, what mean these words?

FIFTH CITIZEN. I am looking for a word.

JUSTICE PEG. What is it?

FIFTH CITIZEN. He lied.

Enter SIXTH CITIZEN.

JUSTICE PEG. What have you to say in evidence?

SIXTH CITIZEN. The defendant served no drinks in the bar after seven of the clock on the night in question.

JUSTICE PEG. What, sir, do you mean by drinks ?

SIXTH CITIZEN. Beer, Lager, Ale, Porter, Arf-and-arf, Shandygaffé, Brandy straight, Brandy smash, Brandy hot, B & S, Ole Olson, Lemonade, Soda Lemonade, Claret Lemonade, Apollinaris Lemonade, Irish Whiskey, Scotch Whiskey, Islay blend, Malt Whiskey, Club Whiskey, Old Rye, and any one of seventeen different kinds of chasers on the side, Tom Gin, Dry Gin, Holland Gin, Gin Fiz, Gin Sling, Tom and Jerry, John Collins, Cocktails, Peach Blow, Pick-me-up, Hot Locomotive, Rum Flip, Egg-nogg, Milk Punch, Orange Punch, Champagne Punch—

JUSTICE PEG. Stop, sir, stop ! Enough ! Enough.

SIXTH CITIZEN. I was trying, your worship, to give the truth—*the whole truth*.

JUSTICE PEG. Enough truth. This Court cannot stand too much truth. Where was the victim, if not in the bar ?

SIXTH CITIZEN. In his room, suffering painfully from his sickness. In his room which he did not leave. In his room in which his knowledge of the world was confined to the space of the room, and his information of things mundane might have equalled mine of Mars.

LAWYER. Your worship, according to the evidence of the Court Spy, and six other witnesses that the doors were locked, how can you account for the presence of the Court Spy in the bar ? The Court Spy does not attempt to account for it ?

JUSTICE PEG. A trivial matter, indeed.

LAWYER. On the contrary, your worship, according to all the rules of evidence, practice and precedent, it is a most important and vital circumstance in arriving at a judicial conclusion.

JUSTICE PEG. (*Seems greatly surprised at the evidence for the defence. Turning to the defendant*). Did you serve the crown witness with drinks on the night in question ?

DEFENDANT. No, I did not, and never saw the man until seated in that chair.

JUSTICE PEG (*Soliloquising*). A strong defence indeed. So different from the ordinary case of its kind. I have it in my mind to dismiss the charge against the victim, and were I my own master I would not be forced to the extremity of dissimulation ; but, alas ! I must dissemble, and, therefore, will reserve my decision.

[*Curtain.*]

SCENE III.

The inner workings of the machine.

An upper room in justice shop. Scribe seated at table.

Enter LICENSE HOLDER and GIANT CHIEF.

LICENSE HOLDER. I require a copy of the evidence of the Court Spy in the case in which I am made defendant.

SCRIBE. I can secure it, sir, but it will take some little time to make copy.

GIANT CHIEF. Your object in requesting copy of this evidence?

LICENSE HOLDER. It is my intention to have your Spy arrested for perjury.

GIANT CHIEF. Are you not aware, sir, that you cannot arrest a Crown witness while he is being used as a witness?

LICENSE HOLDER. That, sir, is a question for my lawyers to discuss.

[*Curtain.*]

SCENE IV.

The residence of Justice Peg.

Enter LICENSE HOLDER and LAWYER.

LAWYER. We are here, your worship, to obtain a warrant for the arrest of the Court Spy, for perjury.

JUSTICE PEG. I demur at taking information and issuing warrant to arrest the Crown witness. It interferes with my administration of justice on these victims; however, as there is no legal escape for me you can have the warrant.

The warrant is issued.

[*Curtain.*]

ACT III.

Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.—TIMOTHY, Chap. 5: 23.

SCENE I.

Justice Shop open, and the machine in good running order.

Enter JUSTICE PEG, GIANT CHIEF, SCRIBE, GIANT RETAINERS, LAWYER, CITIZENS and PETTIFOGGER.

JUSTICE PEG. (Aside to Giant Chief) Last night, near the hour

of one o'clock, the Victim and his lawyer wrung from me a warrant for the arrest of our beloved Crown Witness. But be careful and see that you do not execute the warrant until the Crown Witness has delivered his evidence, the victims have been sentenced, and the good work completed. Look well to expediency, and your duty.

GIANT CHIEF. 'Tis well, your worship, your instructions shall be obeyed most scrupulously.

JUSTICE PEG. I am now ready to deliver the judgment I have had under advisement and reserve. Is the victim in the Court?

PETTIFOGGER. He is, your worship.

Victim stands up.

JUSTICE PEG. It is the judgment of this Court that you be fined fifty dollars and costs.

[*Aside*] It had to be. We cannot allow the evidence of our Crown witness, though unsupported, to be discredited, "*Veni, vidi, vici.*"

Enter another victim.

A wrangle ensues between LAWYER, PETTIFOGGER, and JUSTICE PEG.

LAWYER. I am entitled to ask these questions, as we have a right to know the character of the Court spy and informer. Your worship allowed similar questions on a previous occasion, and if your worship persists in overruling questions of this nature there is no use of going on with the case, and I will leave your Court. I will no longer be a party to such a disgraceful farce and travesty upon justice. It is about time some of these informations were laid before another magistrate if there's going to be any justice.

JUSTICE PEG. Be careful, Mr. X., there must be no reflections on the magistrate.

LAWYER. I am very well able to take care of myself. I am simply expressing the truth and the opinion I entertain. I am through with this roaring farce. *Exit LAWYER.*

JUSTICE PEG (*to victim*). As your counsel has abandoned your case we will waste no more time of the Court; I therefore condemn you to pay a fine of \$50.00 and costs of prosecution. *[Curtain.]*

SCENE II.

Enter COURT SPY, now a prisoner escorted by GIANT.

PETTIFOGGER acting as counsel, chum and confidant.

JUSTICE PEG. Scribe will now read the information and charge against the prisoner.

SCRIBE reads the information charging the prisoner with the crime of perjury, committed in swearing that he had procured intoxicating drinks at 9.30 o'clock from a license holder.

Prisoner enters plea of not guilty.

Enter LICENSE HOLDER.

LAWYER. Did you serve the prisoner with intoxicating drinks at the time he swears in his deposition?

LICENSE HOLDER. No, I did not.

LAWYER. Will you furnish the court with your reasons for your emphatic statement differing with the evidence of the prisoner given on a former occasion in this court?

LICENSE HOLDER. Not having two distinct material personalities it is not possible for me to be in two separate and distinct places at one and the same time.

LAWYER. Where were you at the time referred to?

LICENSE HOLDER. In my room, where I remained all night. In my room excluded from knowledge of anything outside its space. In my room suffering the agonies of painful sickness.

PETTIFOUGGER. How long, sir, have you been a license holder?

LICENSE HOLDER. A time, a time, and half a time.

PETTIFOUGGER. During the time have you broken Toba's laws?

LICENSE HOLDER. Sir, be specific, make your question definite, and you will receive a responsive answer.

Enter FIRST WITNESS.

LAWYER. Where was defendant on the night in question?

FIRST WITNESS. In his room confined to a bed of sickness.

Enter SECOND WITNESS.

LAWYER. What do you know of the whereabouts of the defendant on this particular evening?

SECOND WITNESS. I know he was in his room, sick and feeble, attended by a physician.

Enter THIRD WITNESS.

LAWYER. You are a physician. Can you tell the court anything about the condition of the defendant, on the occasion referred to in this case?

THIRD WITNESS. I know he was a very sick man at the time, and quite unfitted to be attending to business. If he obeyed my instruc-

tions he must have been in his room. More than that, I have always known him to be a trustworthy man.

LAWYER. Your worship, we have not only raised a reasonable presumption, but we have clearly proven, by good credible witnesses, that the prisoner is guilty of the crime charged in the complaint, and, therefore, ask your worship to commit him for trial.

JUSTICE PEG. (Aside). I would that this case were not so clearly established. An evil hour that brought this disciple of Blackstone and these witnesses before me. The law, evidence, and justice, demands that I commit the prisoner. But, should I commit him it would cause a fatal break on the machine, and therefore I cannot decide now while the evidence is fresh in the memory of the multitude. Delay ! time ! when ! where ! how ! escape ! I must resort to my old and only expedient, reserve my judgment until many things are forgotten and some others are thought of.

"Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in ? For my sighing cometh before I eat, and my roarings are poured out like the waters."

"For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet ; yet trouble came." Job 3 : 23, 24, 25, 26.

[Curtain.]

SCENE III.

Justice shop.

Enter JUSTICE PEG, PETTIFOGLER, GIANT CHIEF, SCRIBE, LAWYERS and CITIZENS.

JUSTICE PEG. I am now prepared to render my decision in the case against the prisoner.

The prisoner (COURT SPY) is led in by a giant.

JUSTICE PEG. It is my opinion that the witnesses in this case are so closely identified with the "traffic" that their evidence cannot be taken by this Court ; therefore, my judgment is that the prisoner be and is hereby dismissed from the further custody of this Court.

FIRST CITIZEN. Truly an outrage. This is worse than Russia.

SECOND CITIZEN. We are not in it. He will not believe anything that does not suit his purpose. The machine must have its victims.

THIRD CITIZEN. An absolute failure of justice. To have committed

that perjured scamp would have placed the machine in an awkward situation and spoiled their game.

AMERICAN CITIZEN. So this is English law ; British fair play ! Now, in our country we would yank that old chap out of his seat, and string that spy up to the nearest pole. Life is too short to monkey with getting justice as you do. Surely your temperaments are as cold as your climate.

[Curtain]

SCENE IV.

The Justice shop in particularly good running order after the brief interruption occasioned by the arrest of the court spy.

Enter five more victims, all of whom are summarily arraigned, charged, convicted, and sentenced.

PETTIFOGGER (to Spy). "Well done, good and faithful servant," thy good work is ended. Where shall we procure the services of such another spy ? Truly the like of you we shall never see again. May heaven preserve you for the good you have done.

Exit COURT SPY.]

INDIGNANT CITIZEN. He is at least worthy of an epitaph, and me thinks Bobby Burns wrote it, more than a hundred years ago.

CITIZENS. Hear ! hear !

"Sic a reptile was Pritch
Sic a miscreant slave,
That the very worms damn'd him
When laid in his grave.

" 'In his flesh there's famine,'
A starved reptile cries ;
'And his heart is rank poison,'
Another replies."

JUSTICE PEG (to SCRIBE). Cause this advertisement to be inserted at once in the *Toba Gazette*.

Hands him the advertisement. SCRIBE reads.

"WANTED !!!

"A Spy, as *Whiskey Informer* ! A man of fairly good address who has made the rounds. An experience in the business desirable. Must be an adept in jumping board bills, safe-cracking, a little bunco business, and the 'shells sharpens the wits.' In fact, what is wanted is a first class crook. To such a man the present license laws offer a good

sized bribe. The busy-bodies, bigots, fanatics and mischief-makers in the Temperance party want, and must have, victims. Therefore they offer their prayers and, it is whispered, a little 'stuff.'

"Men of your class are usually shadowed by the Giant Chief and his retainers. In this work you will get their protection. Justice Peg will pretend to believe anything; or, to the point, will not believe anything your victims may say in defence. This gives you the *game*."

Enter new COURT SPY.

JUSTICE PEG. And you, sir, have appeared here in answer to our advertisement for a minion, have you?

NEW COURT SPY. The same, your Worship.

PETTIFOGGER takes NEW SPY aside for judicial instructions.

PETTIFOGGER (*aside.*) A likely looking knave enough. [To SPY]: In this work take a careful survey of the streets of Win, the interior of any house intended to be convicted. This, by care, you can easily secure while making your rounds. It will not be necessary in all cases to effect an entrance or obtain access to the bar, or to purchase drinks. Simply swear right, keep a stiff upper lip and stick to your line. The Court can and will do the rest. Make the late spy, PRITCH, your study and pattern. He was a jewel.

[*Curtain.*

ACT IV.

And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard. And he drank of the wine and was drunken.—Genesis 9: 20, 21

SCENE I.

Justice Shop. Officers, Lawyers, Pettifoggers, Citizens.

Enter LICENSE HOLDER.

JUSTICE PEG. Sirrah, how do you plead before this court of law, equity, and justice. Guilty or not guilty?

LICENSE HOLDER. I am not guilty, your worship. I have prepared no defense, because I knew how unavailing a perfect defence would be in this court. I can only appeal to your humanity for a mitigation of your pre-determined sentence.

JUSTICE PEG. Mercy, do I hear aright? Mercy to one of *your* class in this court would be quite out of place. Stand up, sir, and I

will do you the justice of this court, and enforce the laws of Toba in such cases made and provided. You have been brought into this court and charged with selling intoxicants contrary to law, the extreme penalty for which violation must be visited upon you. I, therefore, condemn you to pay the sum of \$500, to forfeit your license, and to pay the costs of this prosecution.

LICENSE HOLDER. Your Worship, the fine is more than I can pay.

JUSTICE PEG. The wisdom of our Legislature has made provision—broad and ample enough to meet such a contingency. In default of the payment of this fine, the sentence of this court is that you be imprisoned for the term of two years in the common jail, and at the expiration of your term of imprisonment it is further ordered and decreed that you be banished to the north end of Lake Winnipegosie for the period of seventeen years.

Enter another victim.

JUSTICE PEG. How do you plead, sirrah?

VICTIM. As all pleas in this court have the same result, your worship, it makes little difference how I plead, or what I prove.

JUSTICE PEG. State your plea, sirrah.

VICTIM. Guilty, if you like.

JUSTICE PEG. I sentence you to accompany the next relief expedition to the north pole, and there to remain until Prohibition becomes one of Toba's laws. And while there it shall be your duty to analyze the recent vote on prohibition, and satisfactorily explain the majority given for it at the late election, and to further explain what possible effect it will ultimately produce in Toba. Herein fail not, under the further penalty of incurring the displeasure of Mother Mulo and Litigation Graindealer.

[*Curtain.*]

SCENE II.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.—Cor. 10:12.

Reception Room of an Hotel. Tourists and Friends.

Enter TOURIST, (a Globe Trotter). A friendly greeting.

FIRST FRIEND. We are delighted to see you, hope you are quite well, and that you have had a pleasant time of it.

TOURIST. Well, very well, indeed, and am glad to be back with my old friends again in Win. What's the news here?

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10 : 12.

SECOND FRIEND. We have had a vote on Prohibition, and the Legislature is now in session.

FIRST FRIEND. The most important recent event is that poor old Justice Peg, enfeebled by infirmities, became so rank in his decisions that an indignant people, thoroughly aroused at last, demanded his retirement.

TOURIST. I am not greatly astonished at the information. What now? Who occupies the position of Police Magistrate?

SECOND FRIEND. Mr. Judex, a young man of good ability, skilled in the law, possessed of solid character and strong individuality, quite incapable of being unduly influenced in his opinions and decisions. Under his administration of that office all classes receive fair treatment and even handed justice. In fact, we now have a police court with a police magistrate presiding.

[Curtain.]

SCENE III.

Place, the British Museum, London, Eng., A. D. 2050.

Enter TOURIST and GUIDE.

TOURIST. Guide, what do these figures mean?

GUIDE. Justice Peg, Court Spy and Pettifogger.

TOURIST. And this mournful looking female figure?

GUIDE. That figure, sir, represents Russia mourning that after centuries of experience Russia had been outdone in outrageous injustice by these three citizens of Win, under British laws, in a British colony, and in the boasted civilization of the nineteenth century.

[Curtain.]



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THE RAW EDGE OF RESTRICTIVE LAWS.

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DIALOGUE.

The reading room in an Hotel. MERCHANT and PROPRIETOR of the House.

MERCHANT. Ah me! This is wearying work, taking stock. It's Friday night and 9 o'clock and I have been unable to leave the store till now and to-morrow brings Saturday again. I am feeling a slight cold, possibly before I go home a hot toddy might help me and stimulate. Will you join me and take a cigar?

The following night at same hour.

MERCHANT. My friend, I am here again; shall we repeat last night's stimulant and pleasures?

PROPRIETOR. My dear sir! You forget it is Saturday night. To comply with your request under the present law and spy regime might be the utter ruin of my business, and think of my family and responsibilities.

MERCHANT. 'Tis true. I did forget, and what a lesson this teaches. How little personal individual right we possess and how little they are considered by the faddists. My taste, my desires, my appetite, my wants, my mind and resolution are the same. There is no fair play in it, it is simply laws enacted to please a class.

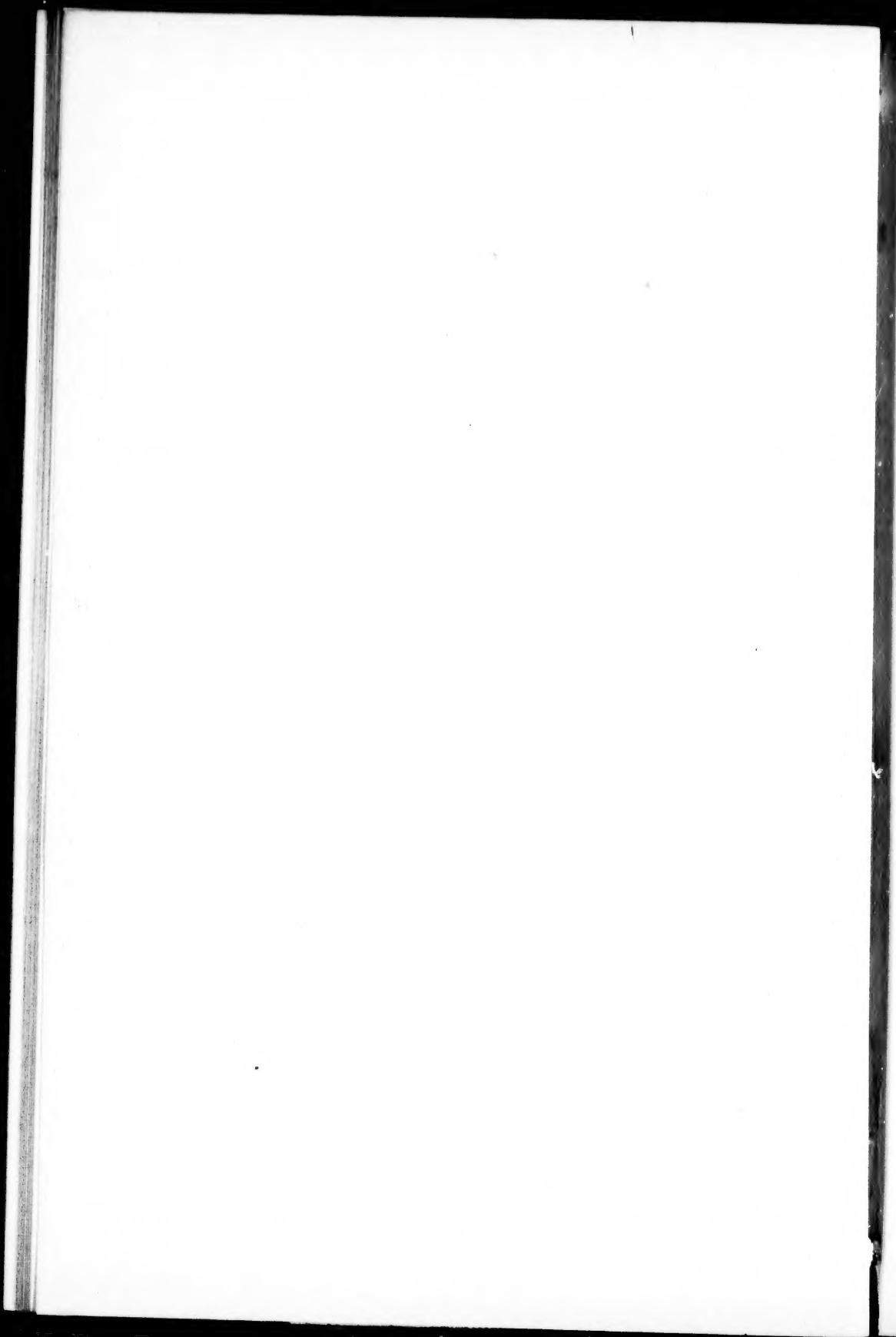
Think of my only alternative now: a doctor's prescription and a drug store. This suggests another line of thought. The drug stores are allowed to sell on Sunday as a business and at a profit the most noxious drugs and trashy patent medicines. If my home was burnt out to-night, myself and family escaping with our lives and night-clothing, we could not purchase anything to supply our necessities on the Sunday. Have simply to accept the charity of the world, friends, and neighbors.

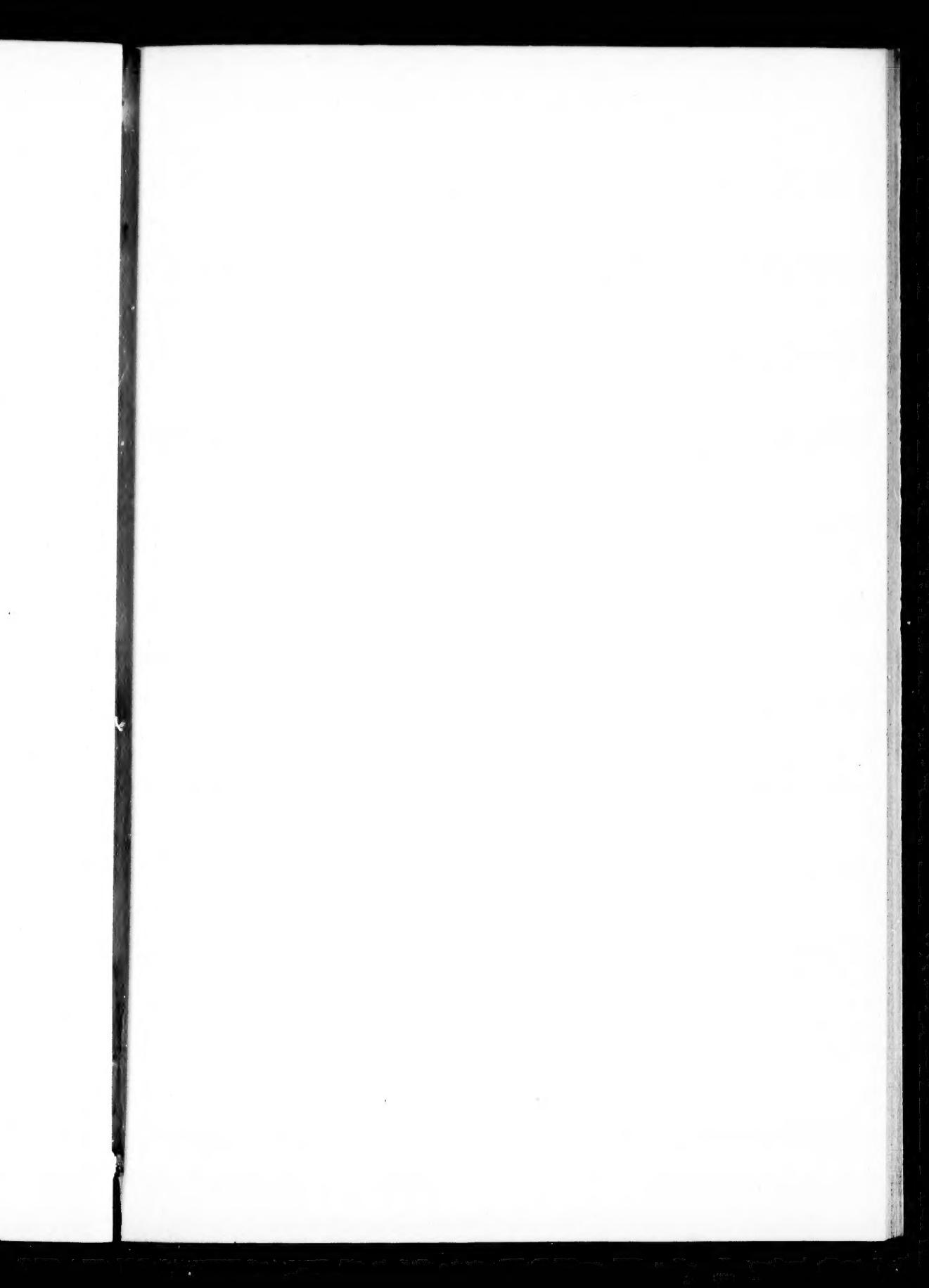
Money can hire a livery or procure a cab. The man without money, unable to indulge in those luxuries, may twiddle his thumbs or possibly seek harmful pleasures. Our wealthy citizens can indulge in horses, keep servants and coachmen, and ease their weary selves on the way to hear the desired Sunday service, see the latest and the parson and the duty paid to conscience.

The street cars are stopped. The working man is helpless in the hands of the powers that make, decree and enact these laws in conformity

with the designing machine power of the church. Practically it is a day of moping and weariness ; to the many, friendly sociability, rest and recreation are denied ; instead of liberty and personal freedom, street cars to convey people as their pleasure and individual right should dictate, to churches to enjoy the society of friends and relations, to pure air and sunshine, to open parks. Nineteenth century laws go beyond those that our Saviour condemned when he said that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath.

PROPRIETOR. You are right. But how few of our people "think" they simply glide along in the swim. I must tell you of rather an amusing scene that took place in the bar to-night when closing. You know of the distinctly social talkative habit of the Germans in grouping themselves when sipping their schooners of lager? Well, three of them came in about five minutes before the time to close and ordered the usual three schooners of beer, each taking a sip with the talk, but leaving on the bar the lager with glasses more than half filled. The bartender asked them to drink their beer, as it was time to close. They naturally objected to swallow it off-hand, claiming that it was theirs and they had paid for it, wanting time to drink. They had also to be informed that they could not remove it to another place nor drink on the premises. It does seem absurd to make a matter that is perfectly legal, (according to existing laws, during the consumption of a drink,) an illegal act and crime two minutes later, and accompanied with the outrageous penalties attached.





For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.

The Son of Man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber.

But wisdom is justified of all her children.

St. Luke, 7: 33, 34, 35.

EXTRACT.

Has it come to this, that professing to be a Christian nation, professing to believe the power of God superior to all powers, that Christian teachings and Christian influences are the safety of the world and the salvation of man, yet we virtually say to the world: We have tried the power of the sunlight of truth, we have applied in vain the principles of love and practice of virtue which mankind was promised should beget in man a desire to overcome the lusts of the flesh, and communicate a power equal to the task. We have invoked the aid and assistance of the ever living God. We have tried all these and they have failed—they are utterly inadequate. The divine law, if such there be, is powerless. The teachings, the precept, the holy example and influence of Christ has failed in our hands, and we are now determined to place our hope and our confidence in laws made by man, and in the *constable*. This is the position of Prohibitionists, and worse still, it is the true position of every clergyman who has borne a guilty part in an agitation which has for its object the most insolent and useless invasion of personal liberties and popular rights known in the history of modern times.

LIBERTAS.

